

HOUSE BILL 2576

By Dixie

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39,
relative to misconduct involving public officials.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 16, Part 4, is amended by
adding the following new section:

(a) A public official commits an offense who intentionally makes a statement or
distributes information to the public concerning public health, when the official knows or
reasonably should know that the statement or information is false.

(b) A violation of this section is a Class E felony.

(c) As used in this section, "public official" means a person who has been
elected to a position in local, state, or federal government.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it.